



January 19, 2022
Frederick County Sustainability Commission
Meeting Minutes



The meeting was held via WebEx.

Per current practice, the meeting is also streamed live on Facebook at Frederick County Sustainability Commission and made available via phone (**1-855-925-2801, Code 9813**) for listening.

Present: Chair: John Ferri, Vice-Chair: Faith Klareich, Secretary: Mark Sankey, Elizabeth Law, Ben Springer (PT), Ron Kaltenbaugh, Tiffany Fossett

Frederick County Council Liaison: Not Represented

OSER staff: Shannon Moore, Dawn Ashbacher

Guests/Public: None

Opening

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by John Ferri. He invited the public via the virtual platform. John initiated a moment of silent reflection. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Mark Sankey asked for any discussion on the minutes of the Commission meeting of December 15, 2021. No comments were offered and the minutes were approved by the members present at that meeting, others abstaining.

2022 FCSC Operational Framework – Discussion – All

John explained the potential activities in the document are now referenced to the County's climate initiatives.

The plan was formerly called the FCSC Management Plan. The Executive Committee considered the name should be changed as shown.

A motion was made to forward the plan to the County Executive. The motion was seconded and during the vote for approval, Tiffany commented. She suggested that the legend for the identifiers for reference to the County initiatives be moved to the Executive Summary for clarity. This was acknowledged and accepted and John will follow up. The motion was passed unanimously with the change.

OSER Update – Shannon, Dawn

Shannon reviewed the County climate initiative kickoff and expectations.

The County Council passed the slate of programs as developed by the County Executive by a vote of 6 to 1. It is encouraging to see bipartisan support. This results in authorization for capital and operating budgets and allows for hiring to fill staff for the Department of Climate and Energy, as well as the Department of Stormwater.

Shannon recapped the four programs being pursued.

- Climate and Energy Action. The County will work to develop tracking, metrics and internal processes to advance the programs. Cooperation with the City will proceed.
- Clean Fleet and Electric Vehicle Infrastructure. The County is considering a requirement for new residential building to include basic wiring and capacity for EVs. Work continues with MWCOG to evaluate policies to promote EVs.
- Building Energy and Resiliency. Focus will include resilient and energy efficient building policies. Also consideration of best ways to invest new resources and involve business entities.
- Clean Energy Procurement. Energy credits from the landfill solar array will be realized. Pursuit of purchase of the array from Tesla is being considered.

Hope is for a thrust for community engagement toward the end of the fiscal year.

Commissioner comments.

- Ron noted questions and issues related to residential curbside EV charging stations. This applies to townhome and similar developments.
- Betty offered assistance to share contacts for outreach to less connected communities for program awareness and assistance. She will forward contacts to Dawn for OSER's use..
- Faith advised the group that the federal government includes provisions in procurement procedures to buy "clean". This is defined as lower embodied energy, or net energy. She posed whether the County might include such provisions as well.

Dawn added comments for OSER.

- MWCOG task orders are under way regarding a Climate and Energy Action Plan for County internal operations, including risk and vulnerability.
- The Power Saver Retrofit program now has two contractors. The program has new funding from the County to reach out to communities who speak different languages.
- Dawn continues to work closely with MWCOG. She has taken the position of Chair of the Council's Built Environment and Energy Advisory Committee.

Subcommittee Updates –All

- Sugarloaf Treasured Landscape Management Plan – Mark

The planning Commission met today and agreed to extend the northern boundary of the plan area to I-270 and the Monocacy River. The report is still in process and has a way to go. We will remember to be open for Tim Goodfellow to meet with the Commission when the final report is issued.

- South Frederick Corridor – Faith

No new report.

- Green Resources Energy Action Team (GREAT) – Bill

Nothing new to report.

- Sustainability Awards – Dawn

The 2022 program will proceed..

Commissioner Interest/Updates - All

- Mark reminded the Commission of the desire to discuss the flow of communication among the Commissioners. This will be on a future agenda.
- Ron expressed encouragement over acceleration of EV interest including increased advertising. Sales approximately doubled in 2021. China and Europe are experiencing faster increase but the US is beginning to catch up.
- Ben acknowledged the increase in EV awareness and interest and added the increase in market competition.
- Betty mentioned she is now Vice-Chair and Treasurer of the Sierra Club Catoclin Group. She oversees their publications. She reported that the City of Frederick is upgrading their oversight of growth issues.
- John announced the International Builders Convention will be held on February 7.

Public Comment

John invited public comments and none was received.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.